

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Guatemala

**SUBJECT** Pro-Peace Activities in Guatemala

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1. Renewed effort to put life into the peace movement has been growing during the first weeks in January. A meeting was held in the headquarters of the Sindicato de Trabajadores de Educacion de Guatemala (STEG) on 12 January 1951 to discuss ways and means of promoting the peace program. The following persons were present: Alfonso Solorzano, Alfonso Crantes, Raul Leiva, Carlos Manuel Pellecer, Virginia Bravo Letelier, Humberto Alvarado, Emilio Grajeda, Victor Recinos, Francisco Monatorio, Consuelo Pereira, Olga Castillo, and Luz Muralles. The principal discussion centered around a campaign to be conducted by the Saker-Ti Group, in which a prize of one hundred dollars would be offered for the best poster on the subject of peace. The campaign is to end on 28 February 1951.
2. The persons present at the meeting admitted that the campaign for the collection of signatures to the Stockholm Appeal had been a complete failure. The possibility was discussed of getting signatures for peace on the prize-winning poster in the Saker-Ti campaign. The original peace committee, organized in Guatemala in April 1950, was largely ineffective in its work, because of the lack of enthusiasm on the part of committee members as well as of the general public. According to source, Luis Cardoza y Aragon is acting as president of the committee during the absence of Miguel Angel Asturias, who returned to Argentina to take up his duties again as Cultural Attache in the Guatemalan Embassy in Buenos Aires.
3. An announcement in the Guatemalan press stated that Enrique Juarez Toledo, who had just returned from the Peace Congress at Warsaw, Poland, would address the peace meeting on 12 January. The article said that Juarez Toledo would speak to the committee meeting about the results of the Warsaw Congress, but source said that Juarez Toledo did not even attend the meeting on 12 January, according to persons who were present. Source called attention to the fact that the article in the press was the first intimation he had had that Guatemala had sent a delegate to the Warsaw Peace Congress. It is known that Juarez Toledo had applied for a transit visa for the United States on 20 September 1949. He stated that he was going to France, where he had a scholarship to study art. If Juarez Toledo was already abroad, source believes it would have been quite possible that he did make the trip to Warsaw to attend the Congress. Juarez Toledo is known to have a background of leftist activities and associations.

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